

AUGUSTUS AXMAKER.

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APRIL 11, 1884.—Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. BAGLEY, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

R E P O R T :

[To accompany bill H. R. 6342.]

*The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 6342) for the relief of Augustus Axmaker, having considered the same, beg leave to make the following report :*

This is a sad case of loss of sight, and the sympathies of the committee are strongly excited for the suffering petitioner, who endeavors to show that the disease which resulted in the loss of vision was incurred in the service. He shows by his own testimony that in 1864, while aiding in tearing up the Weldon Railroad, that his eyes were slightly affected, but there is no medical testimony to prove that there was any serious difficulty until 1874. It is shown, too, by the occupations he followed up to that time that there could have been no serious impairment of vision. Evidence adduced at a special examination of the case points to other causes than hardships and exposure in the service as the promoting cause of the difficulty. The benefit of the doubt, if any, would be given to the claimant. The bill should not pass, and the committee recommend that it lie on the table.

